

Amendments to Specification

Please amend the specification in the application as filed as indicated below:

On pages 1 and 2, after the Title, please replace the paragraphs with the following amended paragraphs:

Reference to Pending Prior Applications

This patent application is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Application No. 09/700,167, filed 11/09/2000, now U.S. Patent No. 6,896,690, which is a section 371 National Stage of PCT/US00/02126, filed 01/27/2000.

This patent application is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Application No. 09/896,258, filed 06/29/2001, now U.S. Patent No. 6,692,513 and is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Application No. 10/022,951, filed 12/14/2001, now U.S. Patent No. 6,929,653, and is a continuation in part of U.S. Application No. 09/896,259, filed 06/29/2001, now U.S. Patent No. 6,769,434, and is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Application No. 10/014,699, filed 10/26/2001, now U.S. Patent No. 6,890,330.:

(1) — pending prior U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/700,167, filed 11/09/00 by Gregory H. Lambrecht et al. for CARDIAC VALVE PROCEDURE METHODS AND DEVICES (Attorney's Docket No. VIA-3);

(2) — pending prior U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/896,258, filed 06/29/01 by Richard B. Streeter et al. for INTRAVASCULAR FILTER WITH DEBRIS ENTRAPMENT MECHANISM (Attorney's Docket No. VIA-8);

(3) — pending prior U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/022,951, filed 12/14/01 by Richard B. Streeter for APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR REPLACING AORTIC VALVE (Attorney's Docket No. VIA-15);

(4) — pending prior U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/896,259, filed 06/29/01 by John R. Liddicoat et al. for METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PERFORMING A PROCEDURE ON A CARDIAC VALVE (Attorney's Docket No. VIA-7); and

(5) — pending prior U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/014,699, filed 10/26/01 by Richard B. Streeter et al. for INTRACARDIOVASCULAR ACCESS (ICVATM) SYSTEM (Attorney's Docket No. VIA-10).

This patent application also claims benefit of:

(6)——pending prior U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/425,877, filed 11/13/2002 by William E. Cohn for CARDIAC VALVE PROCEDURE METHODS AND DEVICES (~~Attorney's Docket No. VIA-41 PROV~~).

~~The six~~ All of the above-identified patent applications are hereby incorporated herein by reference.